

SPORT FISHING

Emergency Order

ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF FISH & GAME

Under Authority of AS 16.05.060

Emergency Order No. 01-19-02

Issued at Juneau, Tuesday,
June 25, 2002

Effective 12:01 A.M.
Date: Friday, June 28, 2002

Expiration Date: 11:59 P.M. Friday,
September 13, 2002, unless superseded by
subsequent emergency order.

EXPLANATION:

This emergency order closes a saltwater area of Auke Bay around the mouth of Auke Creek to all sport fishing. The closed area is within an area bounded by the following lines: 1) a line from the National Marine Fisheries Service boat dock to the first, and most northerly of two white buoys marking the location of the Auke Bay Laboratory's saltwater intake pipe; 2) a line continuing to a second identical buoy; and 3) a line extending from the second buoy to a departmental regulatory marker on the Fritz Cove shoreline. This regulation will be in effect from June 28, through September 13, to protect adult sockeye salmon returning to the Auke Lake drainage.

REGULATION:

The provisions of 5 AAC 47.022 (206) are added by this emergency order. Under this emergency order, the following provisions are effective:

5 AAC 47.022. WATERS; SEASONS; BAG, POSSESSION, AND SIZE LIMITS; AND SPECIAL PROVISIONS

(1) 5 AAC 47.022 WATER	SEASON AND BAG LIMIT						SPECIAL PROVISIONS
	King Salmon	Other Salmon	Trout/ Steelhead	Dolly Varden	Halibut/ Lingcod	Other Fish/Shell fish	
(206) INNER AUKE BAY around the mouth of Auke Creek and inside of an area delineated by a line from the Auke Bay Laboratory boat dock to the most northerly of two white buoys marking the location of the Auke Bay Laboratory saltwater intake pipe, a line extending from the first buoy to the second, most southerly buoy, and a line from the second white buoy to a departmental regulatory sign on the Fritz Cove shoreline. ¹	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	¹ These waters are closed to all fishing from 12:01A.M. Friday, June 28 until 11:59 P.M. Friday, September 13.

JUSTIFICATION:

The escapement of sockeye salmon to Auke Lake this year to is projected to be approximately 2,000 fish, which is far below the escapement goal of 5,000 fish. Although the area described in this emergency order is closed to retention of sockeye salmon, some anglers targeting returning hatchery-released king salmon continue to inflict serious injury incidentally to sockeye salmon concentrating at the mouth of Auke Creek. In past years, prior to closure of this area, approximately 10% of the sockeye salmon seen at the weir had snagging injuries that likely resulted in mortality prior to spawning. Moreover, some anglers are intentionally retaining sockeye salmon when fishing near the mouth of Auke Creek. This saltwater area must be closed to fishing in order to protect the sockeye salmon milling off the mouth of Auke Creek.

DISTRIBUTION:

The distribution list for this emergency order is on file at the Region 1 Office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Division of Sport Fish, P. O. Box 240020, Douglas, AK 99824, (907) 465-4270.